



Transportation

February 2016 Newsletter

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#### Division I

COUNTIES SERVED | Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, Northampton, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington

## NCDOT Works Through Winter Weather

Statewide, NCDOT employees worked night and day during a storm that brought snow, sleet, freezing rain and ice across North Carolina Jan. 22 through Jan. 24. As of Feb. 1, over 2,275 employees across North Carolina spread over 2.2 million gallons of brine, with 1,604



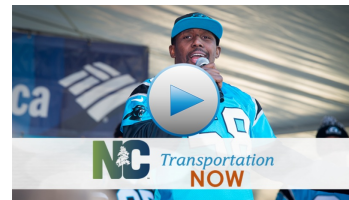
**NCDOT crews and equipment made their way from Pasquotank County to Asheville during the storm.**

NCDOT trucks/graders and 665 contractor trucks. Additionally, they used over 75,000 tons of salt and over 27,000 tons of sand/salt mix.

Crews worked 12-hour alternating shifts throughout the storm and over the weekend, plowing roads, sawing and clearing fallen trees from roads and salting bridges and overpasses throughout the state.

Places in eastern counties that saw lesser impacts from the storm even sent crews to help harder hit areas, sharing resources and helping clear roadways in the western part of the state. Maintenance crews from Washington and Pasquotank counties arrived in the Asheville area Saturday night to assist with response efforts there. Twelve trucks from Sampson County arrived in Raleigh Sunday, and NCDOT transferred additional equipment from the coastal area to Durham County.

## Stay Connected



### N.C. Transportation Now

On the most recent episode of N.C. Transportation Now: the Division of Aviation provides a one-stop shop for North Carolina drone operators, NCDOT seeks new partners for its 2016 Watch for Me NC Campaign, the Division of Motor Vehicles' new mobile office hits the road, and NCDOT reminds people to not drink and drive for Super Bowl Sunday.

[Watch the latest N.C. Transportation Now.](#)

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## NCDOT News

Want to learn more about what's going on at the N.C. Department of

The NCDOT State Farm Safety Patrol had helped more than 200 disabled motorists and assisted in 215 wrecks statewide as of Sunday morning.

For more information about how NCDOT works before, during and after the storm, [click here](#).

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### **Additional Repairs Underway in Elizabeth City on Westbound Pasquotank River Bridge**



**This bridge work will not affect boat traffic and is currently expected to open to traffic later this spring.**

Additional repairs started in late January on the westbound U.S. 158/Elizabeth Street Pasquotank River Bridge in Elizabeth City. Crews with Archer Western Contractors LLC are rehabilitating this bridge, constructed in the 1970s, as part of a \$58-million project that also included reconstructing U.S. 158/Elizabeth Street through downtown Elizabeth City and replacing the eastbound bridge over the Pasquotank River. The new eastbound bridge opened to traffic in May 2015 and the reconstruction of U.S. 158/Elizabeth Street was completed late last year.

The rehabilitation of the westbound bridge, which began soon after the eastbound bridge opened, includes painting the drawbridge leaves on the east and west side of the river, pouring a new concrete deck overlay, rewiring controls and replacing brakes and motors for the drawbridge leaves.

The entire project was originally scheduled for completion by fall 2015. As lead paint was being removed, two cracks in welds were found on the drawbridge span on the east side of the river. While the bridge was already closed to traffic and the cracks do not pose immediate threat to the traveling public, they do need to be fixed before the bridge reopens to traffic.

Both directions of traffic will continue to use the eastbound



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bridge to travel over the river.

The work should take two months to complete. Once these repairs are complete, crews will resume work on the drawbridge leaf on the west side of the river. Because the painting work is temperature and humidity dependent, crews had stopped painting this leaf to proceed with repairs on the drawbridge leaf on the east side of the river. However, crews did proceed with removing the paint on the west leaf to confirm that there were no cracks on that side.

Boat traffic will not be impacted during this work. The bridge is currently expected to open to traffic later this spring.

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## **Northeastern NC Lends a Hand to the Mountains**



**NCDOT crews from the coast arrive in Asheville to help local DOT crews clear roads in the region during the winter storm.**

The expression usually goes "from Murphy to Manteo" when you describe North Carolina. Nothing was truer when the entire state experienced everything from snow, sleet and freezing rain to gusty winds and low temperatures during a winter storm Jan. 22 through Jan. 24.

Crews across Division One prepared by brining roadways on Thursday and Friday. The storm began as sleet, freezing rain and rain, and changed between the three for most of Friday and into early Saturday. Counties along the western and northern halves of the division dealt with dropping temperatures and snow late Saturday, into Saturday evening. In Dare County, primary and secondary roads were partially covered with snow and ice by Sunday. Also there was a moderate amount of ocean overwash in Kitty Hawk and in Buxton. During that time, crews closed Highway 12 in Kitty Hawk to traffic due to high water, sand and debris. Crews re-treated roadways and bridges to prevent further accumulation on roadways and worked diligently to clear roadways Sunday and Monday.

N.C. Department of Transportation crews from Washington and Pasquotank counties were sent to help the Asheville area

Saturday assisting with response efforts spreading salt and scraping snow in hard hit areas. Two lowboys with graders, four trucks with plows, a mechanic and supervisor left for Asheville at 6:30 a.m. on Saturday. They arrived in Asheville at approximately 5 p.m. They worked Sunday and Monday, and returned home on Tuesday.

"We in the northeastern part of the state want to thank the governor for his quick response during the storm. When you're expecting a storm like this, you know it's going to mean a lot of hard work for a lot of our folks," said Division One board member Malcolm Fearing. "I want to thank our NCDOT crews for going above and beyond during the recent storm and throughout the year."

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